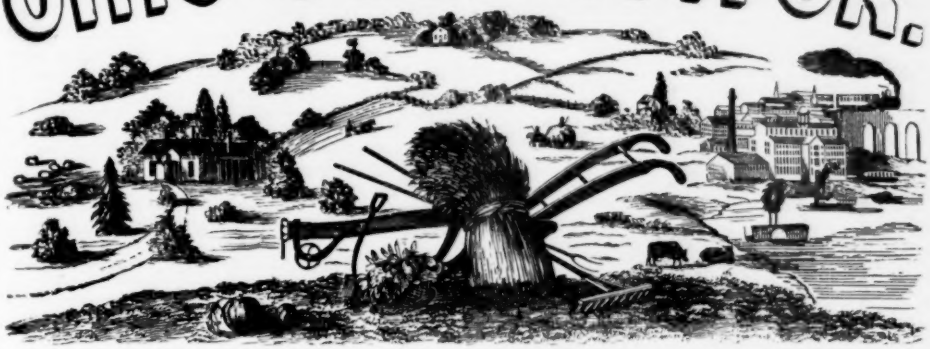
OHIO CULTIVATOR.



Devoted to Agriculture, Horticulture and Domestic Economy.

Published on the 1st and 15th of each month.----M. B. BATEHAM, Editor and Proprietor.

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TERMS.

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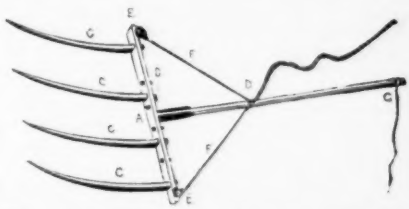
Advertisements Suited to the character of this paper, will be inserted at the rate of 6 cents per line for the first, and 3 cents per line for each subsequent insertion.

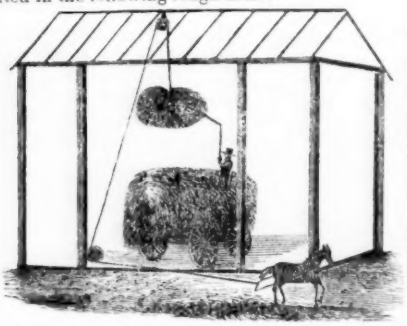
Pitching Hay by Horse Power.

When in Stark county a couple of weeks since, we learned that several farmers there had adopted the plan of unloading hay by horse power, of which a brief description was given in our paper some two years ago. It was first practiced in Pennsylvania, we believe, and is said to be of great advantage where large quantities of hay are stored in barns and sheds—especially as the work of hauling and storing is often done in a hurry to avoid rains, and this contrivance, by a saving of time in unloading, is sometimes the means of preserving several tons of good hay from damage. The cost of the fork and blocks and ropes is only about $7. The following description is from the Pennsylvania Cultivator:



The *head* of the fork, A, is about 28 inches in length and two and a half inches square, and is made of white oak. The *handle* should be about five and a half feet long, and morticed into the head, and secured firmly by a strap of iron clasped around the head, and extending some distance up the handle. The prongs, CCCC, must be made of good steel, about 20 inches long, and five eighths of an inch thick at the head, and tapering down to a point. They are to be set in the head at equal distances apart, with a burr to screw them up tight, and a rivet on each side of the middle prongs, to keep the head from splitting. Staples are to be riveted into the head at each end, EE, to which ropes, FF, are attached, and brought together about three feet from the head at D, and a single rope connected with them at the junction, is passed over a pulley fixed to a rafter near the peak of the roof. This pulley is placed about two or three feet over the mow. The rope is passed down under another pulley, fixed to the lower

part of the door post, in order to change the direction of the rope, and admit of a horizontal or level draft, for a horse. Everything being prepared, and the gearing complete, the wagon-load of hay is driven into the barn-floor, and the process of unloading commences, as exhibited in the following rough draft:



The fork is inserted into the load of hay, and the horse, attended by a boy, is put in motion, and the hay drawn to any required height. The fork is kept level by means of the rope, G, attached to the end of the handle, until the time for discharging the fork-full. The rope in the hand of the man on the load is then slackened, and the hay deposited: or a person in the mow can, if he chooses, give direction to the fork-full, while it is still suspended, so that one man can ordinarily dispose of it in the mow. The horse is then backed up, and the fork drawn down by the small rope attached to the handle, and retained in the hand of the person on the load. In this way six tons per hour can be pitched 20 feet high; and in a great hurry, and changing hands, even double that much may be pitched in an hour.

Letter from Morgan County — Farm Account and Journal.

Ed. Ohio Cultivator: — I am much pleased with the communications of your numerous contributors in different parts of the State and elsewhere, as they keep the readers of your excellent paper advised of the condition of different sections of the country, as well as the appearance of the grain crops, fruits, &c. — All of which are not only interesting to the tiller of the soil, but of much importance to all mankind — as all have to depend upon the husbandman for their subsistence. Also, the readers of the Cultivator are benefitted by the experience of different individuals engaged in the various branches of Agriculture, Horticulture, &c. In addition, I would attempt to throw in my mite, if it will be of any benefit.

In the first place I will give my manner of keeping a farm account and weather table, which I think is quite useful and convenient for future reference. I extract an account of a few days from my book, as follows:

Farm account, &c.

Y. 1849.	Acc't with	Work done.	Men	Boy	Horses	Weather.	Observations.
June 13	Corn field	Harrowing	1		1	Dry, with signs of rain.	Very dry, wheat commences to rust.
June 14	"	Hoeing	1				
June 15	"	Harrowing & Corn hoeing	1	½		" " Rain last night, cl'r to-day.	Wheat rusting bad in the valleys.
June 16	"		½				

There are marks of improvement in our county, wherever the seed of agricultural knowledge has been sown; and if it could be scattered broad-cast through the "—— knobs" of this "hill country of Judea," I anticipate it would be but a short time before we should have a flourishing agricultural society, and our county would take a seat among her Western Reserve and Lake sisters. Farmers, wake up! We are behind the times, down here in old Morgan.

Weather and the crops.—We have had a dry and cold spring, and were not relieved until the 8th of June. Fine showers fell on the 8th, 9th, 15th, 27th and 28th days of June, which revived the growing crops considerably. Wheat bids fair to be a good crop, and is ripening finely; early varieties are ready for the sickle. Corn is growing finely, but is small for this time of year. Oats and grass short. J. W. Williams.

Ringgold, Morgan co., July 1st, 1850.

From Norton's "Elements of Scientific Agriculture."

Effect of Cropping Upon the Soil — Rotation of Crops.

Effects of Cultivation. Composition of ash from the common crops. Differences in the ash from various parts of the same plant. Differences in ash of different crops. How particular classes of substances may be exhausted, and special manures be useful; illustration in the use of lime. Bearing of these facts upon theories of rotation in cropping. Necessity of rotations, and care to be exercised in their management.

SECTION I. ON THE COMPOSITION OF THE ASH FROM OUR COMMON CROPS.

We are now able to understand the effect of constant cultivation upon the soil. This might indeed, to a certain extent be gathered from what has already been said in the two preceding chapters; it is necessary, however, that the sketch of such an important part of the subject should be made perfectly clear and precise. The student will by this time know, that as the inorganic part in the seed of the plant consists mostly of those constituents which were shown by table I. to be least abundant in the soil, the constant selling off of grain must in time very materially decrease the stock of such substances, unless the supply is kept up by the addition of manures. If the soil was very rich at the commencement, exhaustion might be quite slow; but if the stock of fertility was small, it would soon reach the utterly exhausted and worn out condition in which we see so many of our farms. This and other points will be made more clear by a table giving the composition of our most common cultivated crops.

TABLE III:

	Indian Corn.	Wheat.	Wheat Straw.	Rye.	Oats.	Potatoes.	Turnips.	Hay.
Carbonic acid,	trace.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sulphuric acid,	0.5	1.0	1.0	1.5	10.5	10.4	13.6	2.7
Phosphoric acid,	49.2	47.0	3.1	47.3	43.8	7.1	7.6	6.0
Chlorine,	0.3	trace.	7.2	.....	0.3	11.3	3.5	3.5
Lime,	0.1	2.9	0.6	2.9	4.9	2.7	13.6	28.9
Magnesia,	17.5	15.9	8.5	10.1	9.9	1.8	3.3	5.7
Potash,	33.2	29.5	5.0	32.8	.....	5.4	42.0	18.2
Soda,	3.8	trace.	7.2	4.4	37.2	51.5	5.2	2.3
Silica,	0.8	1.3	67.6	0.2	2.7	trace.	7.9	37.9
Iron,	0.1	trace.	1.0	0.9	0.4	8.6	1.3	1.7
Charcoal in ash, and loss,	4.5	2.4	5.7	.....	0.3	0.5	.....	.....
	100.0	100.00	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

These do not represent the *exact* composition of the ash from the above crops, in all cases, but should be

considered only approximations. In different situations, there is frequently a considerable variation in composition; this does not, however, affect the general character, where the soil contains a full supply of necessary substances. The ash from healthy potatoes, for instance never resembles that from a flourishing crop of wheat. The table then may be regarded as approaching sufficiently near the truth for all practical purposes.

SECTION II. ON THE SEPARATION OF PLANTS INTO CLASSES, ACCORDING TO THE COMPOSITION OF THEIR ASH.

I have inserted in comparison with the grain of wheat, an analysis of ash from the straw also, as an illustration of the difference in the substances which they respectively draw from the soil.

a. It will be noticed that in the ash from the grain, phosphoric acid is the chief ingredient, making up nearly half: potash also is in large quantity, being about one-third. In the straw ash there is but 3 per cent of phosphoric acid, and only 10 per cent of potash; magnesia is also much less.

b. In the grain there is not quite 1½ per cent of silica, but in the straw there is nearly 70 per cent. Silica then, is the leading ingredient in the ash of the straw, phosphoric acid in that of the grain. It is silica which gives the straw its stiffness, strength, and elasticity; when there is not a sufficient supply of it, the straw cannot uphold the weight of the grain, and falls down, or lodges, as the farmers say.

c. The reason why nearly all of the phosphoric acid is found in the grain, will be apparent as we proceed to another part of this treatise. This acid is shown by the table to be more abundant than any thing else in the ash of rye and oats: the same thing is true of barley and buckwheat. In the straw of all these, there is also a preponderance of silica. In the grain of Indian corn, phosphoric acid is very abundant, but there is not so much silica in the stalk as in the straw of grain.

The ash, from all of these grains differs from the ash of potatoes and turnips in one essential particular: in the two last, phosphoric acid is comparatively a small quantity, being only about one-tenth; here, on the contrary, we find that potash is the most abundant substance of all, particularly in potatoes, where it is a little more than half of the whole. In the ash of both potato and turnip tops, lime also abounds, and often phosphoric acid. Potash and soda too are here among the most prominent ingredients.

If now we look at the ash of meadow hay, we perceive that that there is still another difference: potash and soda together are about 20 per cent, phosphoric acid is but 6 per cent, while lime is more abundant than anything else with the exception of silica, which last is required to give strength to the stalk as in the straw.

We thus find that there are three great leading classes of ash established: 1. The grains, where phosphoric acid predominates; 2. The roots, where potash and soda abound; 3. The grasses where lime becomes quite important. 4. The various kinds of straw may perhaps be said to constitute a fourth class, where silica is from one-half to two-thirds of the whole weight. 5. It may be well also to mention a fifth class in trees, the ash from the wood of which contains, in very numerous cases, more of lime than of any other substance. There are particularly large quantities in the apple and other fruit trees.

SECTION III. ON THE EFFECTS OF CROPPING UPON THE SOIL, IN CONNECTION WITH SPECIAL MANURING.

In view of these facts, we are now better prepared to consider the effect that cropping has upon the soil. Suppose in the first place that, as is too often the case, wheat or any other grain has been grown upon a new soil crop after crop, and nothing returned in the shape of manure; the yield may be good for a number of years, but then it begins to grow less and less: What is the reason of this? It is probably, that the *phosphates* are nearly exhausted; these were not so abundant as many other substances at the commencement, (see Table I.,) but more of them than of anything else has been taken away. Second, suppose that the farmer has sold all his grain, but has been very careful to return the straw as manure: he does not see why the land should run down, and in fact it does not so quickly now as in the first case; still, after a time it also begins to show marks of exhaustion. Table III. explains this at once: in the straw, he has returned chiefly silica to the soil; it is however, chiefly phosphoric acid that the grain has taken away, and that he has been selling off.

The same thing would result from exclusive cultivation of any of the other grains. Some soils bear this severe treatment longer than others, but there are very few that would not eventually become exhausted. If turnips or potatoes alone were grown, the loss would be of another description, but equally injurious. In this case, instead of phosphoric acid, it is potash and soda that are exhausted, and no amount of phosphoric acid would make good the deficiency. In the case of trees, the demand would more probably be for lime.

The general rule may from all of these facts be considered as established, that cropping tends directly to impoverish the soil. We see by Table I. that silica, alumna, iron, and organic matter, in the soils there given, amount to at least 90 lbs. of every 100. In many soils they come up to at least 95 lbs. There is no fear then, of exhausting the silica; alumna, as has been said, does not enter into the composition of plants, and iron is not usually a prominent constituent. The leading parts of the ash from the grain, the roots, and all of those portions of plants most valuable for food, are found not in the 92 to 95 lbs. made up by these abundant substances, but in the 5 or 10 lbs. necessary to make out the hundred. The quantities of these important substances contained in most soils are therefore small; and hence as they are the very ones most largely carried away, some one of them is usually first exhausted, according to the class of crops that have been chiefly cultivated, as indicated in the preceding chapter.

When one is gone, or reduced to a very small quantity, the crops which particularly require that substance will refuse to grow luxuriantly and yield well: suppose it to be wheat, and the wanting substance phosphoric acid; there may be the greatest abundance of every other necessary constituent, and yet all of their good effects are more than neutralized by this one defect. By attending to such points as these, the farmer may often save himself much disappointment and expense. He may put on load after load of ordinary manure, and still not produce the desired improvement; when at the same time a bushel or two of some particular ingredient, at one-twentieth of the cost, may have been all that the land wanted.

a. In this way we can explain the wonderful effect often produced by a few bushels of lime, or of plaster. These were just the substances which were deficient in those soils where they proved so efficacious; being supplied, the soil at once become fertile. Where they produce no change, as is the case in many situations, it is because there is already a sufficient supply present; because some other substances besides these are also wanting; because the land is too wet, or is otherwise faulty in its physical character; or because injurious compounds are so largely present, as to be fatal to the healthy growth of plants.

It is not uncommon for land to be brought up at once by adding a small quantity of plaster, and the application repeated yearly afterward seems to be all that is necessary. This seeming faculty of fertilizing his soil is apt to lead the farmer into a great mistake. He finds that he can obtain heavy crops each year by using a few bushels of plaster or lime, and is tempted to depend almost entirely upon so easy and so cheap a manure, to the neglect of all others. After a time,

however, his crops begin to diminish again: he tries increasing the plaster or the lime, but no renewal of the former effect; he finally resorts to common manure again, but with not even so much success as he formerly had; the land is impoverished beyond anything he has ever known. Thus in some parts of England it has passed into a proverb,

"Lime enriches the fathers, but impoverishes the sons;

the idea being that the improvement at first is remarkable, but that in the end the land is ruined. Is the blame in such cases to be laid upon either the lime or the plaster? Let us reason a moment upon the facts of the case.

Here was a soil well supplied with all the substances mentioned in Table I., excepting, by way of example, sulphuric acid and lime (plaster of paris.) The farmer adds plaster, which at once supplies the deficiency, and the land produces heavy crops; he adds it the second year with perhaps even increased effect, and so on year after year, until there is as much as is necessary in the soil. Now what is the reason that after a time the crops begin to decrease? There is an abundance of plaster, but may there not be a deficiency of something else? He has been constantly taking off large crops, and carrying them away from the land, with a variety of inorganic substances contained in them. As the crops have been larger than ever before, so the quantities of phosphoric acid, chlorine, magnesia, potash, soda, &c., taken off, have been correspondingly great. How has this constant drain upon the stock of these substances in the soil been met? Why, by a constant supply of plaster, that is, of sulphuric acid and lime. At last one or more of them are exhausted, and how is the loss made up? Still by an increased supply of plaster; and because this plaster no longer does any good, it is said that the land has been ruined by its injurious influence.

From the foregoing explanation, we may easily perceive that it is no longer plaster which the land requires, but perhaps phosphoric acid, potash, magnesia, or some of the other constituents of a fertile soil. They have been taken away, and nothing brought back but plaster; and now that they are exhausted, hundreds of tons of plaster would not make good their loss. It is then the false practice of the farmer, and not the plaster that has so greatly injured his land. The rule becomes clear and imperative, that every one who uses such special manures to make good a special deficiency, should at the same time keep up the general stock by a liberal use of ordinary manure.

SECTION IV. ON THE PRINCIPLES OF ROTATION IN CROPPING.

Nearly all of the foregoing statements in this chapter, and in the preceding one, have borne more or less distinctly upon the theories or facts connected with the rotation of crops. It may be well to make a few direct applications of the knowledge we have now gained, with this particular subject in view.

All good farmers know that the most exhausting system that can be devised, is to cultivate the same crop on the same soil, year after year. When a longer or shorter period has elapsed, as the land may have been at the commencement richer or poorer, the yield begins to decrease; an increase may be obtained again by the free use of manures, but the quantity necessary is so large, and requires to be so often renewed, that it is in most situations more profitable to change the crops, or alternate them.

From such practical observations, have arisen the various systems of rotation that are in vogue in different districts. Table III. shows how practical experience has, in this case, hit upon the very course which science would have recommended. It has been shown by that table, and attention has been called to the fact, that there are several distinct classes of crops, when we consider them with regard to the composition of their ash. The classes are those which are found to bear a part in every good rotation, that is, grain crops, root crops, and grass crops, or the same three classes that were distinguished from each other in the early part of this chapter.

Suppose the farmer to have a soil which requires, as almost all soils do, the application of manure to render it fertile. He adds a good coating of manure, and then takes a crop of indian corn or wheat: this crop will carry away the largest part of the phosphates that were added in the manure; in most cases a second crop of the same kind would not therefore be so good, and a third still less. There yet remains, however, from the manure, considerable quantities of other substances, which the grain crops did not so particularly require, such as potash and soda: with these a good root crop may be obtained, potatoes, turnips or beets; after this there is probably still enough lime, &c., left to produce an excellent crop of hay, if seeded down with another grain crop of a lighter character than indian corn or wheat.

We perceive then that any good system of rotation must be founded upon the principle, that different classes of crops require different proportions of the various substances that are present in soils and in the numerous fertilizers that are applied for the purpose of enriching them. Thus the crops may be made to succeed each other with the least possible injury to the soil, and with the greatest economy in the use of the manures. It would be useless to recommend here any particular system of rotation as the best; for that is a matter to be decided by experience in each section of country, under the various circumstances of climate, location, and value of certain crops. I wish only to enforce the general principle that rotations are necessary, and that they afford the only means as yet discovered, through which the majority of farmers can regularly obtain heavy crops with profit to themselves; and at the same time can keep up, or even improve the value of their land.

It is to be noticed, that even a good rotation should not be continued too long unchanged upon the same land. After cultivating one grain crop for a very lengthened period in a rotation, it will be found of advantage to make an occasional change to some other. The land appears to grow tired of a crop after a time, and to do better with another even of the same class. There are some districts in Scotland, where clover was for more than a century grown once in five years, their rotations in those districts extending over that space of time; now they can only get it once in ten years, or every other rotation, and that not so good as formerly: they call such land *clover-sick*. Instances of this character show very strongly the value of rotation in cropping, and establish by facts the theoretical view that has been taken of the advantages likely to result from such a system of cultivation. As we come to know more of the composition of our various crops, of the soils, and of manures, we may expect to attain greater exactness in our calculations of the amount taken off during any single year, or during an entire rotation.

In each district, the farmer, by careful observation and study, can, after a time mark out the system of cropping and of manuring best adapted to his particular soil and locality.

1. If he knows the character of the rock from which his soil was originally formed, his task is comparatively easy; for from the known composition of the rock he can come very near that of the soil.

2. If he has no knowledge of this kind, he can still hope to arrive at good results, by deductions from the known character of the crops that have been chiefly cultivated upon his farm. He can tell what are the substances that have been most probably exhausted by these crops, and experiment accordingly with manures in which those are the chief constituents.

3. A still more satisfactory way, would be to pro-

cure good analyses of soils by really competent persons. By these the defect or defects would at once be pointed out, and the most economical remedy indicated. Unfortunately few are able to procure such analyses readily, and the majority must therefore have recourse to one of the two first methods of examination, or a union of them both.

I say good "analyses by really competent persons," with the design of hinting that some care is necessary in this matter. A poor analysis is worse than nothing, as it not only involves the farmer in unsuccessful experiments, but in their failure throws discredit on the whole cause of scientific improvement.

Many persons make analyses of soils hastily and carelessly, grudging the time and caution necessary to the obtaining of a good result; and others are really deficient in their knowledge of chemical investigations. In both cases, mistakes without end are usually the only result.

It is not an easy thing to derive positive or valuable information from imperfect analyses; for they are usually most defective as regards the substances that are present in the smallest quantities, such as phosphoric acid, potash, soda, &c., the true proportion of which, as has already been explained, it is of great importance to know.

What constitutes a good Farmer?—No. 3.—Draining.

Friend Bateham:— In my last No. I submitted a few remarks upon fencing and the shape of fields, and will only add now, upon those subjects, that the quality of the one and the arrangement of the other very plainly characterise the agricultural abilities of their owner. Show me a farm, cut up into fields of all shapes and sizes, enclosed by low, rickety, hip-shotten and zigzag fences, and I will show you a man who is any thing but a farmer.

In this No., and according to my arrangement, I shall say something upon the subject of draining.

From my reading and observation, not inconsiderable, and from the plainest deductions of common sense, I am led to assert, most boldly, that the great body of farmers evince more culpable carelessness, or innocent ignorance, upon this branch of agriculture, than upon any other.

It seems to me that a very slight examination of their wheat fields in the spring of the year would teach them a lesson of great value upon the subject of draining. As very little attention has been paid to the draining of such fields, there are spots, from one to three rods square upon which water was standing three-fourths of the preceding winter.

From the want of drainage, this water could not run off, but had to remain there until it evaporated. All that fell there had to remain there. The consequence is, and ever must be, destruction to the grain on those portions of the field. It drowns, or is thrown out by the heaving of the freezing surface. This heaving action, all know, is worse on lands that are wet or watery. Every winter day's observation teaches that fact. Lands that are well drained cannot be injured to any great extent by such action. They have no standing surface water to be subjected to, and in its absence this heaving cannot take place. In other words, where there is no water there is no freezing, and where there is no freezing there is none of this heaving. This heaving process is produced simply by the expansion of the water in the congealing state. Now, this is surely very plain—a self-evident fact; and yet a great number of men, who have been farmers all their lives, act as if they were ignorant of it, or were resolved not to profit by it.

It is not so with a good farmer. He has learned from observation, if from nothing else, that wheat is killed by water standing for weeks together on it, and by the alternate freezing and thawing consequent upon a saturated surface. He knows that when his fields are inundated through the winter, sobbing, soaking and souring, their productive powers are greatly impaired, and that they are much later arriving at a tillable condition in the spring. He knows that vegetation is accelerated by warmth and retarded by cold; that a well drained field becomes warm enough to start vegetation eight or ten days earlier than one that has been soaking and sobbing through the winter, and that wheat will ripen that much sooner on the former than on one of the latter description. This is not all that he knows: he is well assured that the grain lost in two crops from the want of draining would thoroughly drain the fields which are usually sown to it, and that the money, time and labor expended in draining cannot be expended more profitably. His observation, if not his reason, tells him that to spread manure on a surface which is covered with water four months in the year, is but to throw it away.

When a good farmer fallows his fields in the fall, he does not plow them in one land by running round and round them, but he plows them in lands or beds of a uniform width—say wide enough for 3 or 4 or for 5 corn rows—leaving them raised in the middle, with deep, clean dividing furrows between them. When he thus prepares his fields, he knows that if more water falls than can be absorbed by them, the overplus does not stand on the surface to sour, or stagnate, or drown the growing crop, but runs into these dividing furrows, and is thus carried off. Thus is his wheat relieved of surface water in the winter, and consequently escapes the deadly effects of that heaving process just spoken of.

When his fields are so situated, that they cannot be drained in this way, he digs deep ditches, with proper width and direction, blinds them, and thus effects the same object. These blind ditches waste no land, but, when properly constructed, are of an advantage, in many fields equal to 100 per cent.

But it may be asked, when is a field thoroughly drained? The good farmer will tell you that if you find water standing on any of your fields three hours after it fell, they are not thoroughly drained—they are not in so good a condition as they might be—they cannot yield to the utmost of their powers—*they are not thoroughly drained;* and that time cannot be better employed than in remedying that defect.

Thus we see that a good farmer is one who not only has straight, tall, close fences, and well and convenient shaped fields, but who also *thoroughly drains* them.

Highland Co., 1850. Juvenis.

My Daily Journal.

Mr. Bateham: I keep a daily journal and would recommend to every farmer who can write a scrap, to keep one. At the head of each page I first put down the day of the week, for example, Monday, June 24th, 1850; next the kind of weather, cold or hot, wet or dry, frost or snow, cloudy or sunshine; next the kind of work I and my hands perform on the farm daily, noting at seed time the number of acres sown in wheat or any other kind of grain, and the number of bushels sown to the acre; and at harvest time I note down the number of dezens cut, bound and shocked each day, also the money (if any) that comes in, and the money paid out, and a variety of other matters. But I know that many say they cannot spare the time to journalise; but I answer, there is such a thing as redeeming sufficient time in every 24 hours.

I have just looked back on my journal to see how long the drouth lasted with us, and I find the following entry: Wednesday, May 15th, rained last night and this morning—several May showers, continues cloudy and sets in to rain in earnest by 7 o'clock A. M., and rained moderately, without much intermission, till after dusk. After which we had no rain till the 8th of June, at noon it rained a fine shower, which larted 15 or 20 minutes, since we have had plenty of good refreshing showers. Corn and oats have started to grow, and bid

fair to be a good crop; wheat looks well, and bids fair to be the best crop we have had for several years.

Robert A. Sherrard.

Jefferson county, O., June 24th, 1850.

Culture of Turnips.

The time for sowing turnips is close at hand, and we think a larger number than usual of our readers will desire to grow an acre or two of turnips the present year, owing to the short crop of grass, and the partial failure of many fields of corn.

Where corn is thin and uneven, and the ground is in good order, quite a fair crop of turnips can be raised by sowing among the corn at the time of the last working. The partial shading of the plants by the corn seems to be an advantage, especially, if frequent rains occur.

Where corn or potatoes have failed, if the ground is suitable, it can now be plowed, harrowed fine, and sowed with turnips. Or a piece of wheat stubble may be plowed for the same purpose, if there should chance to be any portion rich and mellow enough.

The soil for turnips should be rich,—[but not too highly manured,] mellow, free from weeds or grass, and not too dry. Newly cleared land, abounding with vegetable mold, is very suitable, when not too weedy.

The time of sowing is from the 20th of July to the middle of August. About the first of August for this climate may be considered the proper time. Advantage should be taken of the chance for rain, in order to bring up the seeds speedily. About half a pound of seed is the usual rate per acre.

A dressing of wood ashes sprinkled over the ground will greatly promote the growth of turnips.

The following article is just in time, and gives sound advice; but we presume most farmers will object to the amount of labor bestowed:

On Raising Turnips.

Ed. O. Cult: For five years past we have not failed of raising a good crop of turnips, averaging at least 200 bushels to the acre. Our mode of culture for this crop is as follows: As a general thing we begin to prepare our ground for a turnip crop, early in the spring, by turning under a good piece of sward and harrowing it down the same way as plowed. Let it remain thus until about the middle of May, or until the weeds and grass get so high as to need destroying. We then go over it with a cultivator, or plow it again. The cultivator will generally kill the weeds, and the plow is not needed. Let it lay again until about the middle of July, and then give it a thorough plowing. Let it rest then until we wish to prepare for planting, which is with us, the last of July or first of August.

One great object is, to get the seed in the *right* way. The mode we adopt, [and we consider it about the best,] is, after harrowing well, to throw the land into ridges from 18 inches, to two feet apart, by taking one horse and plow and strike a furrow across one side of the piece, or "land," and back on the other, turning the furrow *in*. The next round, turn the furrow in and *from* the previous ones, letting the plow run as near them as convenient, and keep doing so until it is all ridged to the centre from each side.

The next thing in order is, to pass over these ridges with a common rake, and rake off all weeds and large lumps, leveling down the tops of the ridges a little, so as to hold the seed better when sown. After this raking, we put all the wood ashes saved the past year, on the ridges, at the rate of 20 or 30 bushels per acre, scattering on the tops of the ridges with the hand or a wooden paddle. There is some work in this, but it pays well. It keeps off insects and increases the crop, and produces a better quality. The seed is then sown, or drilled on the top of it all. The way we have accomplished this is to take the nose of a garden watering pot, [any other tin dish will do with a small hole punched in the bottom,] and paste a paper over all the holes but one in the centre—put the seed in at the other end, and stop it up with a stick long enough for a handle, so that when hold of it I can stand straight and the seed be close to the ridge. Shaking this over the the ridge while walking in the space between, I can sow two acres in a day, when the ground is prepared. You will need to see that the hole is not so large as to let out too much seed and thereby waste. After sowing the seed the ridges are passed over with a fine toothed light rake, and the seed thereby slightly raked in.

The next thing is, when the plants are up and have leaves two or three inches long, to go through with light narrow hoes and loosen the ground, cut what weeds there are, and thin the plants to six or eight inches apart in the row. This is all that has to be done until gathering; and if they are managed in this way, with favorable soil and season, there will be two hundred or more bushels per acre.

We marketed 300 bushels last season, at 25 cents per bushel. The seed we use is of our own raising—an amalgamation between the Large flat Dutch and Scotch Red Top turnip, which produces an excellent article for table use.

As it is now too late to prepare the ground through the summer as I have mentioned, I will add that a good crop can be had yet, by now breaking up grain or flax stubble and ridging and sowing as before mentioned, if the ground is rich enough. A given quantity of turnips can be raised by this mode of culture much easier than by sowing broad cast.

Yours, &c., Marsena.

Fruit Hills, Warren Co., O., July, 1850.

Education and Choice of Profession.

BY JOHN A. KENNICOTT, M. D., OF THE GROVE, ILL.

From the Valley Farmer.

I have always thought, and still think, that in this country, at least, suffrage should be universal—with one only, actual restriction, after age and citizenship: and that great requisite should be a certain amount of education, or rather knowledge. This legal qualification should comprise reading and common arithmetic, a general knowledge of the history and geography of our own country, and a tolerable understanding of the powers and working of the Constitution of these United States, and the State in which we live.

Give the voter so much knowledge and he will soon acquire more, and he will always vote right; for he will vote understandingly. And these qualifications are, at this day, positively essential.

In the great and growing West, whose destiny is no longer problematical—as the curtain which veils the glorious future is pervious to the vision of every mind, that the Creator has lit up from the flame of his own high altar of thought, and imbued with the knowledge of good, and the prescience of things to come, derived from a thoughtful consideration of those that have been, and the powers of nature and of science, and the unlimited capacity of our boundless territory.

Sons of the West! know ye not that in your hands will, ere long, be placed, not only the "balance of power," but the power itself, to fashion and guide the moral and political destiny of this great nation? Blink the question as ye may, such is the fiat of inevitable destiny. This Union can never be dissolved, for we can never permit it. Neither can we escape this great responsibility. We are, nine-tenths, Farmers and Mechanics; and shall we still permit a few selfish and designing

demagogues — not a tythe of them of us, or for us — to wheedle us out of our votes and wield, in our name, and by our authority, this tremendous power? A power, for which we alone are responsible to God and our country — our children and their children, and the oppressed and down-trodden sons and daughters of our "Fatherland," and the whole world of mankind?

No! No! The Genius of the nineteenth century forbids it. Common sense and common honesty forbids it, and our own especial interests — too long neglected by mere party politicians — will yet arouse the true sons of Noble Labor — the hard-handed, open-hearted, clear-headed men of the Plow, the Hammer and the Pruning Knife — and cause them to investigate their own political affairs, and exact a strict account from their well paid "servants," who act as such, when soliciting our "sweet voices" only. It will be well for the ambitious man who learns his new lesson early — and better for him who has it already by heart. And thank God, there have been, and now are, great and good men in high stations. To them let us look, on them let us depend yet a little longer. Let us tarry until our beards be grown — our allotted handfuls of brains emboued with the knowledge and discretion necessary to a correct understanding, and a firm and successful accomplishment of our great purpose, our irresistible will.

George Washington recommended us to Congress; but nothing was done for the ignorant and abased farmer. Others have from time to time glanced at the national importance of our pursuits, or more boldly presented our case to the State Legislatures, or in the councils of the nation — but without avail. We were still left to toil and dig on in darkness and error, until a mightier engine arose, until the Agricultural Press came to our aid! and since the advent of numerous and cheap Farming papers, our Star has been in the ascendant, and has ever grown brighter and brighter, and will continue to shine on, until the end of all things.

But, brother farmers, we must have more help — specific aid. We must have justice. If we prove not recreant to our own best interests, we shall have all that we require. President Taylor has found the foot prints of the Father of his Country — and as of us, has nobly urged our claims. Now is our time, let us sustain his recommendation, and demand of our Representatives what he advises. We want an "Agricultural Bureau" at Washington, with a Farmer at the head of it, and practical men — not politicians — in every department thereof. 'Tis but little we ask of Congress, and we shall deserve disappointment if we even admit the possibility of a failure; for is not our will law, in the last resort?

Look at New York, her Agriculture, and her great State Agricultural Society, as well as her beneficent system of public education. And yet in what particular has nature favored this great State, in which she has not been still more lavish to us? Is her soil richer, her climate better, or her sons more energetic, or more industrious? No. Then wherein consists her surpassing excellency? *Her children are better educated*, and her sons know and assert their rights. Great men have been in her councils, and great minds still influence her legislation. Governor Fish has recommended what the State Society and individuals had determined to have, an *Agricultural College* for the education of the sons of farmers; and will the people of the Empire State fail in obtaining what they ask, think you? Unless the farmers themselves are both bigotted and blind, they will not only have one college and one experimental farm, but one in every Senatorial district; and then "a long good night" to half the mere "institutions of learning," where the brains of our young men are coined into Latin and Greek, and the purses of their ambitious parents emptied to make them, too often, mere drones and nonentities.

"Sour grapes," did you say, my friend? Now I assure you, my very learned sir, that I happen to know something about what I write — though I have little Latin and less Greek. Would that I had the time lost in attempting to compass them, though I never lost any time, at other than a medical college. Show me the usefulness, not to say necessity of this sort of learning, and I will advocate it. Better and wiser men than I, condemn your old routine, and your learned lumber. Men of great minds, who have toiled years, and frittered away a world of genius and sterling talent, in order to acquire a "classical education," have time and again admitted the truth of my statement. Then why should I be silent when my brother farmer asks my opinion?

"Learning" is not knowledge. Than this there is no axiom more truthful in education. And the learning of the eighteenth century was worse than useless, and cannot long obtain in the nineteenth. The time has now arrived for a better and more rational system of superior education; and "classic lore" will, ere long, be swept from our colleges as the "Iron horse" has pushed the heavy wagon and post coach from our great thoroughfares. Greek and Latin, and a heap of other nonsense, once exclusively taught in our colleges, have become as useless as a sun-dial for a plow, or an almanac for the man-in-the moon.

Perhaps it may be rather premature for us in the West, to talk about Agricultural colleges, though I think not. But we must talk about agricultural schools — or schools for agriculturists, if you like this phase of the idea better. We must begin to educate ourselves, specifically, as well as generally — and the sooner the better. Believe me, the thing is entirely practicable, and indeed easy of attainment, in connection with our public schools. All we want is a little governmental or legislative encouragement; a bit of land to every school house, and a school house to every district; books, apparatus, and — Teachers. These we can get, and these we must have. And this brings me to my subject, where I left it so long ago. Have patience with me and I will write, God giving me health, so long as you will read; and in my homely, off-hand way I may chance to tell you many truths. But perhaps I have said enough for once; we will therefore rest awhile.

How much Beef will a bushel of Corn make?

Mr. Editor: A handsome three-year-old-steer which I fattened last winter, weighed Nov. 10th, 1849, 1060 pounds, from which time, corn in the ear was fed to him, as much as he would eat, till Feb. 12th, 1850, when he weighed 1220 lbs.,—gain 160 lbs; corn consumed, 29 bushels; gain per bushel 5½ lbs. Net weight as returned by the butcher, 650 lbs; proportion of nett to gross weight 53¼ per cent.

On a lot of cattle, however, fed with corn in the usual way, that is from the shock, 4½ lbs. to the bushel would I think be near the average gain.

The increase in weight for each bushel when fed to hogs is about 10 lbs. [See O. Cult., vol. V. page 231.]

Putting hogs and cattle at the same price per pound, say 2 cts., the hog yields by increase of weight, 20 cts. per bushel for corn and the steer 9 cts. For each bushel fed to cattle, however, the waste and droppings are worth for hogs, 6 cts. The cost of feeding corn to hogs is about one cent per bushel, to cattle 2 cts, which summed up makes a balance in favor of the hog of 6cts per bushel on the corn fed.

From this it will be seen thatthe price of cattle must advance as feeding progresses, in order that they may yield the same return as hogs on the corn they consume in fattening. Half a cent per 100 lbs advance for each bushel of corn fed to cattle the size of the above, would make the return about equal to that on hogs.

Yours, &c., S. Linn, Jr.

Hillsboro, June 1850.

Remarks.—We wish a larger number of farmers would make experiments and calculations similar to the foregoing and send us the results.—Ed.

OHIO CULTIVATOR.

COLUMBUS, O., JULY 15, 1850.

Correspondents must excuse us for delaying publication of a few of their favors not of pressing importance. We are truly grateful for the large number of excellent letters and communications with which we are favored, and which add so largely to the interest and value of our columns. We need no better evidence of the growing interest which is felt by the community in regard to agricultural improvement.

The Weather for the past two weeks has been very warm with timely showers in these parts, causing most rapid progress of vegetation and changing the whole appearance of the country.

The wheat crop is now all cut, in the south half of the State, and all accounts agree that it was never of better quality, and the yield is full an average one. In the north half, the farmers are busy harvesting, and a better crop has seldom been winessed there.

Corn is making most rapid progress, and promises well where it did not fail to come up. Oats are heading well, though light in straw and a short crop. Potatoes, are growing finely where planted in season. Hay crop generally quite light.

In portions of Madison county we learn that there has not yet been rain sufficient to wet the ground thoroughly: and the hay crop and pastures are very short. Being a grazing county this is a great calamity.

For reports from different parts of the State we refer to numerous letters in this paper.

The Midge Worm has done considerable injury to late fields of wheat in Pennsylvania: but as a whole the wheat crop of that State is said to be good.

In Western New York, we learn, the wheat crop is better than the usual average, both in yield and quality.

Cholera has prevailed to some extent the past ten days in Cincinnati and other places south; and three or four fatal cases have occurred in this city, but it can hardly be said to prevail as an epidemic, and there is reason to hope it will soon disappear entirely.

Mr. Sheafe's Sale of Cattle. — We have received a catalogue of the choice Durham Short-Horn Cattle advertised to be sold by A. B. Allen, Esq., in Duchess co., N. Y., the 29th of next month. This herd is remarkable for great milking properties, as well as symmetry of form, &c., and is eminently deserving the attention of breeders and amateurs. Will not some of our Ohio stock farmers endeavor to be present at the sale? We should like to see one or two specimens from this herd, to compare with others at our State Fair.

Ohio State Fair — Arrangements.

The show grounds at "Camp Washington" are now enclosed with a high board fence, and workmen and materials are ready for putting up the large buildings, tents, &c.

A meeting of the executive committee of the State Board, in conjunction with the city council of Cincinnati, is intended to be held shortly, for the purpose of appointing police and other officers and committees for the regulation of the Fair.

Indications from all parts of the State give assurances that the Fair will be very numerously attended. We think there is no reason to apprehend that cholera or other sickness will prevail at the time of the Fair so as to interfere with the attendance. Should there be danger of this kind up to near the time, it will no doubt be thought best to postpone the Fair, say for one month.

☞ A Word to Mechanics and Inventors. — Are the mechanics and inventors of machinery, &c., in Ohio, generally aware of the advantages that may result to them from the exhibition of specimens of their skill at the State Fair, where they will be seen by tens of thousands of intelligent men, besides being noticed and commended [if worthy] by the judges? We fear that many mechanics and artizans are not yet informed of the liberal arrangements adopted for their interests. Will not the editors of newspapers throughout the State call attention to this subject? We will send premium lists, &c., to all post-paid applications.

State Tolls and the Fair. — The Board of Public Works have passed an order that all articles passing on the canals and other public works of the State, for exhibition at the State Fair at Cincinnati, shall be exempt from toll, both going and returning.

No definite arrangements have yet been agreed on by the several railroad companies in regard to the transportation of freight and passengers for the Fair.

Agricultural Fairs for 1850.

Ohio State,	at	Cincinnati,	Sept. 11, 12 and 13.
N. Y. State,	"	Albany,	" 3, 4, 5 and 6.
Michigan State,	at	Ann Arbor,	" 25, 26 and 27.
Maryland Sate,	"	Baltimore,	Oct. 23, 24 and 25.
Cuyahoga co.,	O.,	at ———	Sept. 3 and 4.
Lorain	"	" Oberlin,	Oct. 2.
Wayne	"	" Wooster,	" 10 and 12.
Stark	"	" Canton,	" ——
Richland	"	" Bellville,	Sept. 24.
Warren	"	" ———,	" 4 and 5.
Jefferson	"	" Smithfield,	Oct. 18 and 19.
Harrison	"	" Cadiz,	" 24 and 25.

☞ Officers or members of societies not included in the above list, will please notify us of the time and place of holding their fair, when the same have been determined. If contained in a newspaper, the notice should be distinctly marked with a pen, or it may not be seen by us.

Locusts. — This mysterious insect, which makes its appearance punctually in regular successive periods of seventeen years, has, after the lapse of this great length of time, revisited our country.—*Lewisburg (Va.) Chron.*

Reaping Machines in Ohio and the West.

In our recent trip through the great wheat counties of this State, we found that quite a large number of reaping machines had been ordered and were just arriving from different manufactories. At the steamboat landing at Sandusky there were perhaps fifty or more; some of them from Chicago and others from Brockport. At Cleveland also, and at Massilon we saw considerable numbers. In conversation with farmers we learned that although the number of machines arriving seemed great, it was not half so great as it would have been if the spring had been as promising for farm crops as usual, or if the farmers could have foretold the excellent quality of the wheat crop long enough before harvest to have procured the machines.

Most of the reaping machines imported into this State the present year we notice are of McCormick's patent; though some we saw at Sandusky were of Seymour and Morgan's patent, from Brockport N. Y. We understand also that quite a number of Huzzey's patent have been manufactured and sold by Messrs. Minturn & Allen at Urbana; and in Stark county we learned that Mr. J. Ball of Greentown, manufactures Huzzey's machines of good quality.

We should be pleased if our correspondents will inform us, when writing, how the different machines have met the expectations of purchasers during the present harvest.

The Prairie Farmer for the present month says, it is probable that not less than 3500 new reaping machines will be put in use the present harvest in the north western States. These are estimated to be equivalent to the labor of 17,500 men, so that no great scarcity of hands need be anticipated in consequence of the emigration to California.

Lime Water and Cholera — Filtering Apparatus for Rain Water.

In the commencement of Dr. Ray's valuable articles on rain water and cisterns, published in the early numbers of our current volume, in speaking [p. 19,] of the superior healthfulness of rain water for beverage, allusion is made to the ill effects of drinking hard or lime stone water during the prevalence of cholera; and it is stated that Mr. John Lea, of Cincinnati, was preparing a work for publication, giving an array of facts that afford convincing evidence of an intimate relation between the limestone geological formation, and the spread of the cholera.

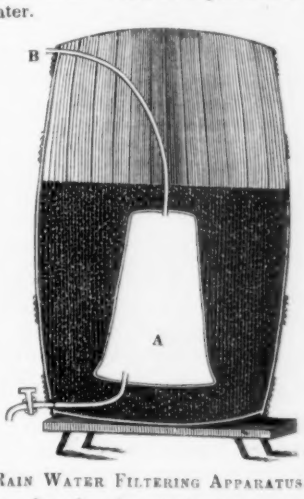
We had before read one or two articles on this subject, in newspapers, from the pen of Mr. Lea, and were favorably impressed in regard to his so called Geological Theory, as it fully accorded with our own limited observations on the subject; but we did not expect to find such an overwhelming array of facts and arguments as are contained in the pamphlet recently published by Mr. Lea, in support of this theory. We cannot afford space for quoting any of these facts, but would recommend those who take an interest in the subject, to send and get the work. [It can probably be had of any bookseller in Cincinnati, at a cost of about 25 cents.]

The proposition which we regard as fully established by Mr. Lea, is, *that the use of hard, or limestone water, such as comes from springs and wells in limestone countries, is a proximate or exciting cause of cholera at times when that disease prevails; and on the other hand, the use of rain water exclusively, [or soft water in sand stone countries] affords almost certain protection against that dreaded disease.*

In proof of this position, Mr. Lea adduces hundreds of instances where families, living immediately contiguous, some using hard water, and others soft, the former suffering great mortality from cholera, the latter exempt; also, the well known facts that in all localities [it is believed] where this scourge has prevailed in this and other countries, it is found that the geological formation is chiefly lime stone, or the water used by the inhabitants is more or less impregnated with lime.

The history of the cholera in our own State the past year, as well as in its former visitations, affords striking evidence in favor of this theory, as every person who is familiar with the geology of the State will admit.

But aside from danger of cholera, it is shown that the use of hard water as a beverage, often tends to induce other diseases, especially in persons who have not been in early life accustomed to its use. We think, therefore, that we cannot do our readers a greater service at this time than by giving a description of a filtering apparatus, by means of which rain or cistern water can be rendered pure and sweet, and by the addition of a little ice in hot weather, as palatable as well or spring water.



Rain Water Filtering Apparatus.

Take an oak cask or barrel, that is sweet and clean; bore an inch or 1¼ inch hole near the bottom of one side, in which insert the end of a piece of three quarter or one inch lead pipe ten or twelve inches long, the other end projecting inwards and bent upwards towards the middle of the cask, at A; and in the other end place a common beer faucet or stop-cock, from which to draw water as desired. Have ready, say one bushel of good hard wood charcoal, and the same quantity of clean fine gravel — from the fineness of coarse sand, up to the size of peas, and if not clean, wash it till no dirt will appear in the water. Break the charcoal to the size of walnuts and smaller, then mix it evenly with the gravel; next cover the bottom of the cask three or four inches thick with this mixture, pounding it down firmly. Next take a clean garden flower pot, of large size, [say two gallons] and place it bottom upwards in the centre of the barrel, on top of this layer of gravel

and coal, and over the end of the lead pipe, as shown at A. Then take a piece of small sized lead pipe, and place one end firmly into the hole in the bottom of the flower pot, [now uppermost,] and bring the other end over the the top edge of the barrel, or through a hole at B, near the top, for the purpose of admitting air into the space under the flower pot.* Now fill in the space around and above the flower pot with the mixture of coal and gravel, pounding it firmly down as you proceed, till the cask is from two-thirds to three-fourths full; then place some thin flat stones [not *lime stones*] on top, and the filter is complete.

The water being poured in on top, passes through the gravel and charcoal, by which it is purified, and enters the chamber, A, from which it is drawn by the stop-cock or faucet, as required: the small pipe admitting air into the chamber to supply the place of the water while it is being drawn out.

This filter is only designed for rain or soft water, and will serve for constant use a year or more without renewal; but if used for hard water the charcoal soon loses its virtue. When first put up, the water drawn from the filter will have an alkaline taste, which disappears in a day or two.

* A stone jar, or small oak keg, or bucket, if sweet and not painted, may be used instead of the flower pot; and the small pipe may pass down the side and come under the lower edge, instead of entering by a hole above, if found more convenient.

A good Letter from Knox County.

Mr. Editor: We are busily engaged in harvesting. I have this forenoon been following McCormick's patent Reaper. "It goes first rate," and does its work up brown. But we find raking to be something like work. Our wheat here is of excellent quality and a full average yield; our corn is doing very well, and [except what was covered so lightly that it dried out,] will be a fair crop. On the whole, we ought to be ready next fall to hold a hearty thanksgiving: inasmuch as we all appear to be suited. The votary of superstition sees abundant evidence in the head full of plump grains of wheat, that he did not miss his time by sowing in the full of the moon; the slovenly farmer sees in his abundant crop of chess, the doctrine of transmutation clearly demonstrated; the observing farmer sees in his rich and beautiful field of pure clean wheat, satisfactory evidence that it is wise to sow pure seed on "*free soil;*" while the devout Christian sees in all the rich products with which we are blessed, abundant reason to lift up his heart in grateful thanksgiving to the kind Parent who is so profusely showering his blessings upon us.

Come then, Mr. Editor, and pay us a visit on thanksgiving day, and we will kill a pig or a pair of turkies, and call in some of the natives, and have a "time of it."

I forgot to tell you that our potatoes look well; oats short but pretty fair; flax light; grass quite light. But the horses are done eating, the boys are calling, and I must go to work. Truly, your friend,

W. Bonar.

☞ We'll note down that invitation on our slate, friend Bonar.—Ed.

Jefferson County.

We have had frequent and abundant rains of late, and a heavy thunder storm on the 30th ult. Wheat crop is now ready for the reapers and is very bright and fine. Corn is late but now rapidly coming forward. Oats short but good color and heading well. Hay crop short. Pastures very good.

Of fruit we shall not have as many apples as we anticipated, a large part having fallen off the trees. A fair crop of peaches—budded varieties bearing as well as seedlings. Early cherries have rotted badly; good show of late kinds.

Bees have done well this season; first on the flowers of fruit and other trees, and now on the blossoms of white clover; collecting large stores of honey for the coming winter. Let us be equally industrious and provident; not only in providing for our physical wants, but in laying up stores of knowledge to cheer and sustain us in the winter of age. L. T.

Mt. Pleasant O., 8th mo., 1850.

Letter from Warren County.

Mr. Bateham: Our wheat harvest is mostly cut—the crop very good, heavy on the ground, well filled, and the berry heavy. There was a large quantity sown, and it will turn out more than an average for this section. There is some little rust, but not common nor injurious.

Corn is backward, but growing fine, and as this is the month that makes our corn, and the weather is fine, with a favorable fall, we may look for a middling crop.

Oats short, grass light.

E. Carpenter.

Warren County, O., July 6th, 1850.

Letter from Erie County.

Mr. Bateham: The wheat crop is now ready for the reaper, and the farmers are busy in harvesting. The character of the crop may be considered settled, "A number one," both in quantity and quality.

The appearance of the red [midge] worm caused some alarm, but the injury from that cause will be slight. No rust at all.

Corn promises fair and is coming forward rapidly. Oats will be short.

The hay crop, although improving, will be a short crop, say one ton per acre.

The weather has been glorious since the rains began, and at present is good for securing the wheat and hay.

Pastures look fine, and on the whole, we have much reason to thank God and take courage.

Yours, &c.,

B. Summers.

Erie Co., O., July 7th, 1850.

Holmes County.

"Our farmers are busy cutting wheat. The wheat crop is a fine one. Oats and corn are doing pretty well since the rains, grass is light. Clover hay in this vicinity is mostly damaged by the rains."

Letter from Indiana.

Getting up in the world—The Weather—The Wheat Crop, &c.

Mr. Bateham: Since my last I have *vis* to be farmer *indeed*, and intend from this date, to

"Raise my own ham, chicken and lamb,
To shear my own fleece and wear it.",

And now, having got the weeds out of my garden and cornfield, I tho't I would give you some account of my operations, &c.

I moved on my farm on the 27th of April; rather late to make much improvements; got my corn planted in the usual manner, then declared war on the burdock, and all other dock, of which I found an abundance. I shall have a hard fight, but I have resolved that their seed shall not ripen on my premises this year.

The season has been very dry; there being no rain from the 7th of May to the 15th of June. Since the 18th we have had several fine showers tho' they were rather local, not extending over but a small portion of the country, and I learn that portions of this county have not been blessed with a shower since the 7th of May.

The wheat crop is uninjured, and promises above an average yield; the weather now is fine and in a few days the wheat will be ready for harvesting. The drouth has cut the grass and oat crop short; the only things that have been much injured. Fruit is plenty, except peaches, they were all killed in the bud.

I received some seeds from the patent office, among which was one parcel that I cannot make out satisfactorily.) I pronounce it *Dwarf Hibiscus*, (the original paper is enclosed.) I have searched all the agricultural and horticultural works I have, and have not found any mention made of it. I have sprouted the seeds and planted them in my garden with the hope that I would learn something of its use. Can you tell me what it is? I hope to meet you at the O. State Fair in Sept., and will try to induce some of my neighbors to do likewise. THOS. W. REECE.

Stony Creek, Randolph Co., Ia.

REMARK.—The "dwarf hibiscus" of which we also received seed from the patent office, is a flowering plant or shrub, belonging to an extensive genus or family, some of which are annual, as the African Hibiscus, others perennial and herbaceous, as the rose of Sharon or Marsh hibiscus, and others shrubby as the Althea. This *dwarf* species may be new and beautiful: we are not acquainted with it.—ED.

Meeting of Wool Growers at Cincinnati.

We have been requested to call a meeting of wool growers at Cincinnati, at the State Fair. In pursuance of the request, we would give notice that a meeting of wool growers will be held at the Burnet house, in Cincinnati, on the 11th day of September next, at six o'clock, P. M. Having been honored by the appointment of chairman on one of the sheep committees, Providence permitting, we intend to be on the spot in due time. We hope to spend some two or three weeks in the State about that time, to make up for lost time last year. — T. C. PETERS, *in Wool Grower.*

From the Wool Grower for July.

Review of the Wool Market.

The wool market for the last month has presented a peculiar feature. Without any advance in fabric, and even no demand, wool has been purchased from the farmers in the country at prices ranging from 3 to 7 cents per lb. over last year's prices for the same grade; and wool has actually brought higher prices in Ohio and Michigan than it can be sold for in New York or Boston markets.

Many things have contributed to this result. One is, the fact that a larger number of manufacturers than usual have sent out their agents, because they were short of stock, and must have some at any price. This has created a competition, and they have thus given the market firmness. Another is the competition among the local merchants. They bought to a considerable extent, and made money last year. They have bought much larger this, and have paid prices that must get the wool. They have, in many instances had to compete with the manufacturer, which would be to their disadvantage, as they must sell at an advanced rate to get a profit, while the manufacturer would not lose even if he paid a higer price.

The finer grades of wool have not been sought for with so much avidity, as the coarser and medium grades. There is however a prospect that even fine wool will be wanted at fair prices. By our last advices from Europe, we learn that England will be compelled to look to this country for fine wool to a considerable extent, owing to the very high prices of German wools. We think if fine wool growers will act in concert, there is a better time coming for them. They have only to get their wools once properly introduced into the English market to get a good demand and increased price, at any rate to be sure of a steady market.

HORTICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

Dr. Kirtland's Seedling Cherries.

Mention has several times been made in our columns of a number of new and valuable cherries produced from seed within a few years past by Dr. Kirtland of Cleveland; and in our paper of Nov. 1, 1847, descriptions are given [from the Horticulturist] of seven of the most promising of these seedlings. Since that time several others have been fairly tested, and found valuable, but no description of them has yet been published.

Besides the large number of seedlings — some forty or more — Dr. K. has a large collection of the approved known and named kinds, so that his collection of cherries, now in bearing, probably exceeds that of any individual in the West, and is not excelled by many in the eastern States. It is proper to remark, that his soil is quite sandy, with a mixture of shale and gravel, which seems to be highly favorable for this fruit; and it is not probable that the same varieties would produce as much and as good fruit if removed to a clayey or otherwise unfavorable soil.

At the time of our visit the past month, we found the early cherries all in fine eating condition; among these are three of the seedlings described in 1847, to wit: Rockport Bigarreau, Doctor and Cleveland Bigarreau. The Rockport was not quite as large or well flavored this year as usual, we were informed, [and in fact this might be said of nearly all cherries, owing, we suppose to the drouth,] but it was very fine. The trees of Doctor and Cleveland Bigarreau were completely loaded down with the rich, tempting fruits. The former, though small or medium in size, is very sweet and rich the latter very closely resembles the Yellow Spanish, except in its earlier maturity, and perhaps being more productive. "Kirtland's Mary," "Ohio Beauty," and "Elliott's Favorite" were not ripe, but their appearance was exceedingly fine, especially of "Kirtland's Mary."

Among the numbers of seedlings which have not been named or described as yet, we noted "No. 10," a beautiful light red yellow cherry, of large size, very sweet and high flavor; and we were imagining, how pleasant it would be to have a large tree in full bearing, that we might gather and eat at our leisure, when the Doctor drew us along, tasting of one and another, until we came to a black cherry, "No. 4." This is a splendid fruit for gardens or orchards; it is nearly as large as the Black Tartarian, with similar outward appearance, but the flesh is more firm and perhaps a little richer. From this we passed to "No. K.," a seedling much resembling the Early White Heart, but ripening a few days

later. "No. 31" is a black cherry of medium size, good, but not yet of size and quality to commend; this is its first year of bearing, and it will probably improve. "No. 52," a fruit above medium size, of a fine, clear, red or amber yellow, mottled with red, as grown in sun or shade, of a waxeny, glossy character, flesh slightly tinged with red, tender and juicy, first year,s fruiting, promises fine. "No. B. B." is a cherry of medium size, somewhat resembling the American Amber, very sweet, juicy and good flavor; this also fruited for the first time this year, and was not quite ripe when we saw it. "No. N." is a cherry much resembling Black Eagle, but ripens earlier, and we should judge, would prove valuable. "No. 30;" this was fully ripe, and for a small tree and its first fruits, we think it promises much. It is a black cherry, something like Knight's Early Black, juicy, sweet and rich, and ripening with the Early White Heart. "No. A. A." promised to be a fine black cherry; it was not ripe, and so we might say of many more to which the Doctor with his wonted courtesy called our attention, but getting tired, we put up our note book, with merely adding, that we never saw a tree more abundantly loaded than was the Late Bigarreau, but as the fruit was only about half ripe, we could say nothing of it. As we were wending our way towards the house, the Doctor called our attention again, and directed us to a seedling tree near his house, the fruit of which was unripe, but which had fruit two seasons previous, and proved so fine that he had propagated it, and Mr. Elliott had named it "Delicate."

Mr. Elliott being almost daily examining these cherries, with the Doctor by his side, and making his notes, the public may safely count upon having introduced to their notice only such as are really deserving.

We will only add that the cherry known about Columbus as the "German May Duke" has been decided by Dr. Kirtland, and also by Mr. Downing, we believe, to be identical with the "Early Purple Guigne" of the books and foreign catalogues. It is one of the very best early cherries known, but is said to be rather hard to propagate.

Remarks on Apples---Bracken & Prince's Harvest.

FRIEND BATEHAM: The season of apples has returned. The Early Chandler is now in cooking condition; and the Bracken, in a few days, will be ripe. In numbers 14 and 16 of the last volume of the Ohio Cultivator, I gave the history and a description of the Bracken, and stated it had frequently been confounded with Prince's Early Harvest. I have the true Bracken and there are many trees in this vicinity. A few years since, I procured, from my friend Thos. H Humrickhouse, Esq., of Coshocton, scions of what he called Prince's Early Harvest, from a bearing tree, said to have been brought from Long Island. The first leaves and wood of these scions are similar in every respect, to our Brackens.

Mr. Curtis, of Grave Creek (Va.) cultivates for the Princes' Early Harvest, trees containing what is said to be characteristic of the Bracken, viz. what the nurserymen call a *navicular* projection where each limb leaves the main branch from which it starts. Some cultivators and nurserymen in Jefferson county, say this is the distinguishing feature of the Prince's Early Harvest, while the original cultivators of the Bracken claim this as the distinguishing feature of the Bracken. I am informed Dr. S. P. Hildreth, of Marietta, cultivates what he calls Prince's Early Harvest, and that his trees do not contain those rings or projections at the commencement of each limb.

There must be many trees of the true Prince's Harvest in the State, which have been brought from the east, and I trust the owners will examine them, and report to you, the results of their observations, and that some of our Eastern friends will examine their trees, and give us the result of their observation. If the feature which I have mentioned, is common to the Bracken and Prince's Early Harvest, then, they are either identical or one is probably a seedling of the other. I have traced the Bracken as far back as 1815, then a bearing seedling tree in Kentucky. I have never seen any history of the P. E. Harvest. Mr. Downing makes it the same as the early French Reinette of Cox, which is still cultivated in some parts of the country as a distinct variety.

I am sensible, that persons may laugh at the idea of any pomologist's not knowing the Prince's E Harvest. Well, let them laugh, and when they get through, sit down and communicate their knowledge to the Editor of the Ohio Cultivator.

The Columbus Horticultural Society once decided the Bracken was the White Juneating of Downing.—Mr. Thomas has greatly erred in his description of this apple. Let us now have its name and character definitely settled. .SA. BARKER.

McConnelsville, June 24th, 1850.

Culture of Water Melons.

MR. BATEHAM: I wish to say a few words in reference to the culture of Watermelons. The time for planting should be from the 1st, to the 15th of May (this year from the 15th to the 20th will do.) A rich, loose, soil, inclining to the sandy, [if such can be obtained] should be chosen; it should be plowed *deep*, furrowed eight feet apart each *way*; the seed should not be covered *deep;* plenty of seed should be put in *each hill*; when they come up, if the bugs are likely to destroy them, throw a handful or two of slacked lime upon each hill in the morning when the dew is upon them. When they begin to grow and throw out their second leaves, pull out all but two plants to each hill, and when they get fairly started to vine take out one of *them*, leaving but one plant in each hill; then plow them frequently, keeping them clean and the ground loose; the vines should be laid round and the ground well plowed when the vines are almost sufficient to cover the ground; they should then be laid out carefully and the ground kept clean until the first melons begin to ripen. If the ground gets hard about the hill, when they first begin to vine, it should be dug up deep and loose about the hill.

Most persons fail in raising good melons by first permitting the ground to get hard about the hill; and then permitting the ground to get foul before the vines have fairly covered the ground, thus choking the vines and preventing the melons from coming to perfection.

Yours, respectfully, JAMES MCGREW.

Montgomery county, May 6th, 1850.

P. S. In the manner above described, I have raised melons that weighed as much as forty seven pounds and as good as ever was ate. J. Mc.

Licking County--Crops--Fruit--Insects, &c,

MR. BATEHAM:—The fears entertained in May of the sad effects of frosts and drouth have been exploded by the copious rains and warm days and nights of June. Every crop promises abundance. Oats will be short and hay will be rather light, but far above the range of a failure. We shall have reason to thank Providence for *enough*.

In the way of fruits, too, our prospect is equally favorable. Our strawberries were not large, but were plenty and of fair size. It is now the hey-day of raspberries. Cherries, hearts and bigarreaus, were nearly all used up by the rose bugs. What shall we do with these pestiferous insects? Grapes, cherries, and even

young sweet apples are their prey, as well as many of our favorite flowers. I presume we killed bushels of them on my premises. Every morning for nearly three weeks, and often in the evening, myself and my man were among them with a basin of soap-suds or hot water, and often the produce of one tour amounted to more than a gallon. We succeeded in protecting our grapes.

Plums we do not attempt to grow. The curculio has made them as sour to us as height made the grapes to the fox. I have noticed the articles of Messrs. Longworth and Ernst in you last. There seems to be some controversy as to the length of time this pest prevails. I have found them on my trees as late as the last of August. Last year I found one or two on ripe, red rareripe peaches. As to the instincts of the curculio, I have doubts, at least their instincts have not cautioned them against stinging fruit overhanging a running stream. I planted several plums, so as to overhang my brook, where the water is usually six or eight inches deep, but every plum is gone. I am ready to admit the force of every objection to all the preventives, and to give them all up. When the curculio has had its day, we may have plums, but until then, success with that fruit will be accidental in my opinion.

It is commonly said that ants feed upon the coccus and the aphis. As to the former, I feel pretty sure that they nurse them with all the care that a shepherd does his flock. I have seen the ant taking up the coccus in his mandibles and carry it from one part of the branch to another, and where the cocci most abound, there you will find most ants. I have watched them, very busy with the young cocci ,where the branch is fully covered with them and hundreds of ants running about in every direction, and have never observed that they had any other business than to nurture their herds.

The summer caterpillar is becoming very numerous, and threatens to strip our pear and quince trees. Blight is making its appearance in quinces and apples.

Complaints of budded peach trees being unfruitful, I think too common and too sweeping. Olds' red rareripe, Morris' red, Morris' white, Morrisiana pound, Bergen's yellow, Yellow rareripe, bear as well with me as good seedlings. Yours, truly. I. Dille.

Newark, July 6th, 1850.

Fourth Annual Report of the Board of Agriculture of the State of Ohio.— We have received this report, which makes a good volume, of nearly 300 pages. It is truly gratifying to see how rapidly agricultural improvement is progressing in Ohio. Nothing shows it bettter than the increased size of these reports, coming, as a great bulk of its contents do, from the several counties, and giving a good history of the leading crops in each, by actual residents. For accurate information as to the real condition of agriculture through the State, we consider this volume entirely ahead of our own more bulky transactions. The State of Ohio will owe an immense debt to a few men, who have stuck to the Board of Agriculture, until they have succeeded in arousing a feeling among the farmers that will make them second to those of no other State. We predict for their great fair at Cincinnati, on the 11th, 12th, and 13th of September next, an exhibition that New York might well be proud of.

And why should not Ohio be foremost among the first? There is no State in the Union that possesses to so great an extent, all the elements of boundless prosperity that she does; and we hope her citizens will not allow her resources to remain long undeveloped. The first great step towards it is to build up her agriculture. The real wealth of this world lies within a foot of the surface of the earth. If any man doubts, let him dig. — *Wool Grower.*

Horses will often do more for a whistle than a whip: as some youths are best governed by a rod of love.

Do what you ought, and let come what will.

HOUSEWIFE'S DEPARTMENT.

☞ We take pleasure in welcoming "V. W.," with other new contributors, to our housewife's department. Hope we may hear from them often.—Ed.

"Is she a Lady?"

How often do we hear the question asked, Is she a lady? I would ask in return, what are the requisites of a lady? Is she a lady, who dresses fashionably and gaudily?— Who spends her time in idleness, or worse than idleness, because she is too proud to work, while, perhaps, her father, husband, or brothers, toil from morn till night for her support? Is it she, who leaves her sick friend,— mother, perhaps,— in the care of a hired nurse, to attend a party of pleasure or a ball?— Or children in care of a mere child? Too often, alas! are these things done by those who claim the title of lady.

I was once asked, in regard to a friend of whom I was speaking, Is she much of a lady? I answered, yes, in every sense of the word. I then asked the person what she meant by the term Lady. She answered by asking, if she did her own work? Yes; she sews, knits, and sometimes spins: she goes with her husband (who is a minister) to visit the poor and sick; she makes her husband's clothes (except coats) entirely; she can make nice, good bread, can cook meat and vegetables almost to perfection, and make pudding, pies and cake; she can also converse with you upon history, natural philosophy, astronomy, botany, &c., or the common events of the day; and all in a very intelligent and lady-like manner.

A true lady will not think it beneath her, to do any thing that duty or circumstances may require. How often do you hear it asked, is such, or such an one a lady? and the reply is, oh, no! she's but a farmer's daughter, or wife, as the case may be. I have known of farmer's daughters, on being sent to a boarding school, a few miles from home, becoming ashamed to say their parents were farmers; ashamed to own that they ever milked a cow, washed the dishes, or baked bread. I once heard a mother say (a farmer's wife, too,) of her daughters, "I intend to raise my daughters ladies; they shall not work and drudge about the kitchen, as I have done, making their hands as hard and rough as a washer-woman's. They would not look well at a fashionable party or ball-room, after cooking over the stove till their faces are as red as a man's who works in the sun all day."

Alas, vain, shallow-minded woman! is that the chief end for which you are raising your daughters, to grace a ball-room and to despise their parents? for if they despise labor, they will despise those who perform it. It would be far better to raise them to be useful — to keep their own houses, or assist their parents, and to think themselves dignified by performing useful labor.

The notion of its being degrading (entertained by a certain class) for a lady to do the work of her own household, is fast passing away, and it is to be hoped, never to be revived. What a noble example of the true lady, in both theory and practice, had we in the much lamented editress of our department of the Cultivator. Long will she be remembered by many of us, into whose hearts she had penned her way. She was not ashamed to tell us, she did her own work. And where is her superior in refinement and atttainments? Let us all strive, like her, to be true ladies. As a lady once said, in writing to her young sister, "strive to be a lady in all you do, in all you say, in all your actions, be a lady," whether it be in the kitchen or parlor, be a lady.

Respectfully, V. W.

Fairfield co., O., July, 1850.

Soda Biscuit.— Take 2 quarts flour, sift it, 2 teaspoonsful of soda, 4 of cream of tartar, and one teaspoonful of salt; mix them well with the flour, then rub in a lump of lard as large as an egg, add sour milk

enough to roll without more flour; roll half an inch thick and cut and bake 15 or 20 minutes. If you do not get them good the first time, do not be discouraged, but "try again." V. W.

Mrs. Jones' Experience.—No. 2.

BY FRANCES D. GAGE.

"Oh! Mrs. Jones, your flowers are so beautiful. I do love flowers, but I cannot for my life get time to do any thing with them. It is as much as I can do to get along with the work in the house."

I suppose you really think and feel just as you say, Lizzy; but I really think you are entirely mistaken. If you loved flowers, or wanted them very much, you would find time to cultivate them. Do you remember what Mrs. Swisshelm said last year, when she gave the country girls such a scolding about scouring tin cups? No, I know you don't scour tin cups, but you scour other things; really, Lizzy, I believe you spend more time over your front door steps, scouring and whitening them, than I do in my flower borders, and after all, to my taste, they are not half so pretty as they would be, left the rich sombre grey that nature made them. You are always whitening carpet strips and washing paint and yet I never heard you or your mother own in your lives that your house was clean.

"But, Mrs. Jones, you would not have us go dirty, would you?"

Not I, Lizzy; but there is a wide difference between being dirty and being always in a fret. Where I clean my parlor paint and windows once, you clean a half dozen times, and I do not believe after all that a common observer would know that your house was much the cleanest.

"Where there is a will there's a way" is an old and homely saying, but none the less true, and when one wants to do a thing, they can most always contrive to find the time to do it. Your door yard is a rich and soft soil, and with a little cultivation might be made beautiful, instead of growing, as it does every year, a swamp of unsightly weeds. You grew Jamestown weeds enough last summer, before your door, to have supplied all the hospitals and apothecaries shops in the State. The time that you have spent any two days in the last year in braiding your fine hair, or in other ways of just as little consequence, would have destroyed every one of them. Now, Lizzy, just make a beginning to-night when you go home. It is rather late in the season, but if you will take this jessamine root and set it under your front window, and shade it a little for a day or two, it will grow up to the frame before fall. Coax the boys a little, and they will help you spade up a border along the path; or, if they won't, you can do it yourself. I have often spaded mine. I dare say, your father will tell you at first that it's all nonsense; so did Mr. Jones; but I think now he loves to have the flowers about him pretty near as well as I do; and the boys, too, as soon as they find you are trying to have things look nice, will feel a kind of sympathy with you and help you along; that is, if you don't scold them, for if you do, they will be apt to think ill humor and flowers go together. Why Ned and Mary think it is the greatest fun in the world to go out in the spring time and get flower roots for me, and they never find any thing new without trying to get the root for mother. My borders are full of anemonies, wild violets, mountain pinks, wake robins, wild forget-me-not and blue bells and liverworts that pop up their heads and bob a "how d'ye" to the crocus and pansies, before the winter has fairly gone. Teach your brothers to love flowers, and birds and beauty; boys are as much better for being refined and cultivated as girls are, and I never yet saw a boy or man that really loved a rose, that was ever coarse or vulgar at heart. God would not have so clothed the earth with varied beauty, without some design of wisdom and goodness. Flowers are to me types of purity and holiness, and I never plant a violet but I feel that I am bringing a messenger of God to my children's hearts; and if I teach them aright, they will let it enter in and dwell there forever.

But, Lizzy, I had most forgotten what we begun about. But really it don't take much time to cultivate a few vines and flowers. Do you see that bittersweet? Well, I jumped out of the wagon one day as I came from town and pulled it up, and set it out when I got home; it did not take me fifteen minutes, and yet there it is, a thing of beauty for years. Just so with my rose bushes; when I am out from home and any one offers me a root or shrub, I don't think as you did, that I have no time to cultivate it, but I take it home and *take time*. If the children should go without a pudding for dinner, or the kitchen floor is not scrubbed that day, no one will be the wiser or the worse off a year hence; but there will be my beautiful shrub or tree, giving forth its fragrance and enlivening all things around it for years to come.

* * * * * *

"Where did you get your delicious black raspberries, Mrs. Jones?"

Why, I'll tell you, Lizzy, all about that, too. Do you remember the day, two years ago this spring, that you and the rest of the young folks went up to the table rock for a pic nic? "Yes." Well, that very evening I took the boys and the mattock and the spade and went over into the thicket, and dug up with my own hands about a dozen raspberry bushes, and we brought them home and set them over on the hill-side, and they have grown and spread mightily, and now we are all enjoying the fruit of my pic nic; but Lizzy and Anna where is the fruit of yours?

"Do you object to pic nics, then?"

Object to pic nics? Not I. But while I would have young folks enjoy themselves in every innocent way, I can see so many ways of blending usefulness, of enhancing the present moment and giving an earnest zest to the future, that I really can't help lecturing a little sometimes. Suppose now, that every one of your party had that day brought home a vine, a shrub or wild flower from the woods, and each one have cultivated it as a memento of the happiness of the hour, what a fund of interest and enjoyment and beauty might have grown out of your pic nic. It would have been as a chain of verdant affection to have bound you together, and not a home in the neighborhood but would have been made brighter and fairer, and perchance happier for your spring frolic.

'Tis said the world is full of care:
And so it is, but yet 'tis fair,
And flowers are springing all the way,
And those who choose to pluck them, may:
And if we gather each our share
We'll find a flower for every care.
Then let us wisely twine our wreath,
A flower above, a care beneath,
Covering our griefs, as best we may,
With rose-bud hues or violet ray;—
And thus light up life's darkest hours,
And make *it all a world of flowers.* F. D. G.

McConnellsville, O., July, 1850.

"Unwholesome and Pernicious Practice."

I am much pleased with the articles in the housewife's department, treating of education, the culture of flowers, &c. By permission I propose to touch lightly a different subject, and one which may be thought out of place in the Housewife's Department of the Cultivator; but it certainly is one, which in some way affects almost every mother wife or sister in our land. I mean the use of that Virginia weed, tobacco.

In the last report of the Ohio Institution for the Education of the Blind, may be found the following remarks: "A recent and not unimportant item has been added to its sanitary regulations. It will be gratifying

to the friends of the Institution to know, that through the instrumentality and firmness of the Superintendant, the unwholesome and pernicious use of tobacco has been abandoned by all the pupils. This is a desideratum not less necessary to the cleanliness of the Institution, than to the well being of those addicted to its use."

Here we have Dr. Howard's assertion that the practice is "unwholesome and pernicious" and that the discontinuance of it was necessary for the cleanliness of the institution and the well being of its inmates. Why it is so "unwholesome and pernicious" the Dr. could have best told; but we all know that, by its continually stimulating the saliva! glands, and producing overdischarges therefrom, the natural condition of the system must be deranged; and that whatever deranges the natural functions of the body must be "unwholesome and pernicious." This being the case the disuse of the article is demanded by the health of the rising and all future generations; as habit is one of the hard task-masters of our country and people. Not only is its disuse required by health and the cleanliness of public Institutions, but it is imperiously required for the cleanliness of the housewife's dominions, as well as for her general comfort and satisfaction. I appeal to you, my sister housewives of Ohio, and ask have you not often and often been discommoded and disgusted by the expectorations of the tobacco chewer, while engaged in culinary operations around your stoves or kitchen fires? But this is not all, the use of the article pollutes the air and defiles the floor and furniture of the church, the school house or the public lecture room.

Our statesmen and orators, in addressing public meetings, generally say to the ladies, that on them depends the social and moral character of the people of our country. If this is the case, cannot we wives, mothers and sisters of Ohio do something to check this "unwholesome and pernicious" practice among our husbands, sons and fathers?

Our own comfort and convenience would certainly be promoted by a reform of the kind mentioned in the Institution referred to; and if the female part of the community would take action, firm but kind, in opposition to this evil, we should soon perceive an improvement in the habits of our friends and visitors.

Your Sister. UNITY.

Carroll county, O., 1850.

From the Wool Grower.

A Widow Worth Having.

Mrs. Miranda Hines, who has been a subscriber for twenty years to the Greenfield (Mass.) Gazette, without giving the proprietor any trouble about pay, shows herself, in the following extract, a most notable dairy woman:

MUNROE, Feb. 18, 1850.

I have five cows, and have sold the last season, 1300 lbs. of butter, besides milk, cream, and butter for the family use. Our family will average eight. I raised seven calves last spring, some of them quite early calves, and some late; two of them I got of my neighbors. I have fatted 768 lbs. of pork, mostly on the sour milk. Now let us leave out one of the cows for the family use, and set the credit to the other four—say 1300 divided by 4, makes 325 lbs. to each cow; the butter sold averaging 16½ cents; 325 lbs. at 16½ cents makes $53 62 to each cow. The seven calves were worth $30, say $25 to the four cows; and five hundred of the pork at $6, will be $30; and the $25 for the calves, makes $55, divided by 4 leaves $13 75 to each cow; this added to $52 62 will make $67 37 to each cow.

My cows are about middling sized, and of the native breed. They have a good pasture in summer, and good hay in winter, and that is all, except in winter, I sometimes give Old Brindle a few small apples and potatoes, parings, and the like, to make her hold out her milk till some of the others come in.

When I see any thing in the butter line in your paper that beats the above, I will try again.

MIRANDA HINES.

[Where's our brother of the *Ohio Cultivator?*]

☞ You needn't talk to us, brother PETERS, about that Massachusetts "widow worth having."—She is too smart entirely—has too much *experience*, we fear, and too many incumbrances.—ED. O. CULT.

FARMERS' ENCYCLOPŒDIA.

BY C. W. JOHNSON; Adapted to the United States by G. EMERSON, Philadelphia, 1850. In one large octavo volume, 1173 pages, with numerous plates and cuts of plants, live stock, farming implements, &c.; strongly bound with gilt emblematic designs on the cover, making a beautiful and most useful ornament to the book case and parlor table.

In this comprehensive book, every thing relating to Agriculture and Rural Affairs is treated of in the most plain and practical manner, the latest and most useful information being arranged in a form the best suited for convenient reference. Space will only admit of giving here some two or three of the very numerous favorable notices taken of the work by editors and distinguished individuals in various parts of the Union.

"We are fully convinced that such an amount of valuable knowledge for farmers can be found in no other work in so cheap and convenient a form. In fact, no farmer who pretends to be well informed in his profession, should be without this book."

"Of all the agricultural works that have lately been published, this appears the most likely to be of real service to the practical farmer."—*Central New York Farmer.*

"An excellent and entertaining work, fit to be distributed in premiums by agricultural societies. How much better, and in better taste, than the amount of its cost given in *money*."—*John S. Skinner.*

For sale by Whiting & Huntingdon, *Columbus;* W. H. Derby & Co., and J. F. Dair & Co., *Cincinnati;* Morton & Beckwith, *Louisville;* and the principal booksellers in the Union. Price, $4,00. [Cost of the imported work in 1 vol. without any plates: $14,00.] [july1]

THE FARMER'S BOOK.

THE FARMER'S BOOK AND FAMILY INSTRUCTOR, embracing the most important of the recent scientific discoveries connected with Practical Agriculture; comprehending a description of the nature of soils, the nature and value of manures, the cultivation of plants, the husbandry of domestic animals, the cultivation of fruits, and the general economy of the farm; together with a variety of information of value to all classes, especially the Farmer and the Domestic Family Circle. Carefully compiled from the best sources. By I. Pritts. Illustrated by a large number of engravings. 1 vol. 8vo.

For sale at the Bookstore of
Columbus, May 15. I. N. WHITING & HUNTINGTON.

FARM FOR SALE.

A very desirable FARM half a mile north of the National Road, and 20 miles east of Columbus.

THE undersigned offers for sale the Farm now occupied by Mr. William Murphy, half a mile north of KIRKERSVILLE, Harrison township, Licking Co., O., and not more than half a mile from the Columbus and Newark Rail Road, the great Central Route from Baltimore to St. Louis,—containing 175 *ACRES OF VERY EXCELLENT LAND*, well suited to Wheat, Corn, Oats, Hay and Potatoes. A living stream of pure water passes over it. Some 50 acres now under good cultivation, and well fenced. 100 Engrafted Apple and Peach Trees, of five years growth. Also, a comfortable log cabin and stable.

Title clear and undisputed. Possession may be had immediately.

Price $3,000—one third in hand—remainder in three equal annual instalments, with interest, annually. Bond will be given to deliver a deed of general warrantee when the payments are all made.

For further information, inquire of Mr. J. R. WHITTAKER, Inn keeper at Kirkersville, or of

NAHUM WARD, Marietta, O.

Kirkersville, June 15, 1850.

THRESHING MACHINES.

THE subscribers are manufacturing and have on hand a large number of PITTS' PATENT SEPARATORS.

C. M. RUSSELL & CO.

Massilon, Stark co., Ohio, April 15, 1850.

CHOICE STOCK FOR SALE.

A FEW thorough-bred Short Horn Durham Bulls, one year old past, bred from some of the most approved Ohio Company's stock.

Also, one thorough-bred Ayrshire yearling Bull; and a few grade heifers of the Durham Stock.

☞ Those wishing to purchase will do well to call and see them. JONA. and JACOB PIERCE.

South Charleston, Clark county, O., July 1st, 1850.

THE MARKETS.

Ohio Cultivator Office, July 13, 1850.

Hot weather, and fear of the cholera, of course prevent activity in the markets just now; and farmers are too busy in harvesting to attend to making sales of any thing. The very favorable accounts of the wheat crop in all parts of this country, and in Europe, will of course prevent high prices in grain and flour; at the same time, the prosperous state of trade generally, and the small stock of wheat and flour left over, will prevent prices becoming as low as might otherwise be expected.

We hear of no sales of new wheat as yet.

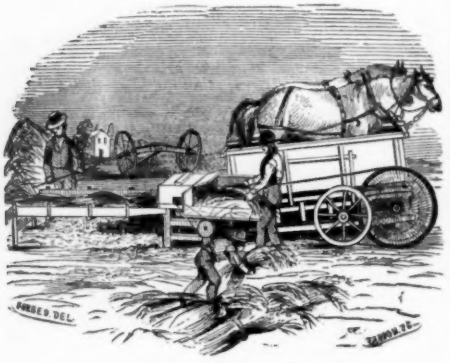
Cincinnati, July 13.—Flour has declined to $4@3,80 Wheat, none offered. Corn 48@50 cts. Oats 43@44 cts. Flax Seed $1,25. Pork, mess $10,50@10,75 per bbl. Butter, dull, 8@8½ cts for packing, and 12½@15 at retail. Cheese very dull and quality inferior, 5½@6 cts. Eggs 9@10 cts per dozen.

New York, July 13.—Flour is more active at $5,50@5,75 for good Michigan and Ohio; Wheat unsettled; Corn 62½@65 cts; Pork, mess $10,50, prime $8.50 per bbl.

Cleveland, July 12...Flour $4,50@$c; Wheat none; Corn 46; Oats 33; Ashes, pots $4@4,50, pearls $5@5,25 per 100 lbs.

Columbus, July 15...Flour $4,75@$5; Wheat none; Corn 33@35; Oats 33; Potatoes, new, 75 cts per bu.; Butter 10@12½; Eggs 8@10 cts; Chickens 12½.

ALBANY AGRICULTURAL WORKS.



WHEELER'S PATENT

IMPROVED RAILWAY CHAIN HORSE POWER

AND OVERSHOT THRESHER AND SEPARATOR.

THE Subscribers invite the attention of readers of the Cultivator, to their advertisement in the Second May number. For the purpose of more promptly supplying orders, they have located a branch of their business at Chicago, and have established numerous agencies in the Western States, for the sale of their Powers and Thrashers.

☞ Orders may be addressed to the subscribers at Albany, or to WHEELER, MELICK, & Co., Chicago, or to any of the agents named below:

Ohio.	F. R. ELLIOTT, Cleveland;
	JOHN BONSFIELD, Kirtland, Lake county.
	JAMES JOHNSON, Wooster.
	SAMUEL BOWLBY, Newark
	MYERS, COBURN & Co., Akron.
Indiana.	SPEARS, CASE & Co., Delphi.
Michigan.	F. F. PARKER & Brother, Detroit.
Wisconsin.	W. D. BACON, Waukesha.
Iowa.	WM. B. ARNOLD, Franklin Centre, Lee co.
Missouri.	E. ABBOTT, Ed. Valley Farmer, St. Louis.
New York.	RAPALJE & BRIGGS, Rochester.
	T. C. PETERS & Brother, Buffalo.
	PETER R. SLEIGHT, Poughkeepsie.
	JAMES BUELL; Glen's Falls.
	W. S. GATES, Schoharie Court House.

WHEELER, MELICK & Co.

Hamilton street, corners of Liberty and Union streets,
July 15, 1850. Albany, N. Y.

SEVENTH STREET PLOW FACTORY.

GARRETT & COTTMAN, manufacturers of Steel and Cast Mould Plows, Seventh street, first door west of Main, Cincinnati Ohio. We keep on hand a generally assortment of plows, of our own patterns, such as sod, side hill, right and left handed plows, all of which are warranted to be made of good materials, and to perform well, or they can be returned. *April* 1.

GREAT SALE OF SHORT-HORN CATTLE.

THE subscriber will offer for sale without reserve, at public auction, on Thursday, the 29th day of August next, at 1 o'clock P. M., on the farm of J. F. Sheafe, Esq., at New Hamburg, Duchess Co., New York, about 35 head of short-horn cattle, including cows, heifers, and calves.

This herd was mostly bred by Mr. Sheafe, and I do not hesitate to say, that I think it *one of the very best* in the United States; and I have seen and particularly examined nearly all of them. Great attention was paid in the commencement of this herd, to the milking properties of the animals forming it; and this, together with fine points and good growth and constitution, have been steadily kept in view in its breeding. There is but one cow in the herd which gives less than 20 quarts per day, in the best of the milking season, while one has given over 29 quarts per day and made 15 lbs. 3 oz. of butter per week, and two others have given respectively, 31 and 36 quarts per day. Their color is of the most fashionable and desirable kind—red, red-and-white, and a rich strawberry roan—only one white cow in the lot. They are of good size and fine style, and all in calf to the superb imported bull Exeter, who will also be offered for sale at the same time.

Pedigree of Exeter.—Exeter is of the Princess tribe of Short-horns—was calved in June 1848, and bred by Mr. John Stephenson, of Wolviston, Durham, England. He was got by Napier, (6,238,)—out of Jessamine, by Commodore, (3,452)—Flora, by Belvidere. (1,706)—Jessey, by Belvidere, (1,706)—Cherry, by Waterloo, (2,816,) &c. See English Herd Book, Vol. V., for full pedigree.

Exeter was selected for Mr. Sheafe, by a first rate judge of Short-horn stock, and was considered one of the *very best bulls* in England. Quite a high price was paid for him; and it is believed that his superior, if even his equal, has never before been imported into this country. He carries an enormous brisket for his age, and his style, handling, and quality are of the finest kind. His color is mostly a beautiful yellow-red, which is a bright-red with a fine golden or saffron undertinge, arising from a rich yellow skin. He is the *only bull of this peculiarly desirable red*, ever imported into America. Calves got by him, out of this herd of cows, will fetch a high price the moment they are dropped.

Mr. Stephenson, the breeder of Exeter, now stands at the head of his class in England, and his stock is of the highest repute. It is entirely of the Princess tribe, and traces its pedigrees without any alloy or Galloway blood, back to pure Short-horns, for upwards of *two hundred years*; a matter of no small consideration to those who wish a *superior fresh cross*.

Catalogues of the above stock, with pedigrees in full, are now ready for distribution.

Southdown Sheep.—A choice flock of this superior breed of mutton sheep will be sold on the same day as above.

Suffolk Swine.—One boar and several breeding sows and pigs, of this fine breed of swine.

Working Oxen.—A handsome pair of red working oxen.

May 15. A. B. ALLEN, 189 Water st., New York.

CIRCULAR.

THE subscribers are making and vending J. W. SHERMAN'S NEW SEED DRILL AND BROAD-CAST SOWER, constructed upon a new principle; cheaper, simpler, and more DURABLE AND ACCURATE, than any similar machine now in use.

We are building three different qualities of these Machines. No. 1, is a superior Drill and Broad-Cast Sower, and will sow fine Manure (such as Plaster, Ashes, Guano, &c.,) *Broad Cast*, or in the Drill rows, any desirable quantity per acre, at the same time of drilling in the grain. It is well finished, substantially made, of good material, and WARRANTED—at the low price of SIXTY-FIVE DOLLARS.

No. 2, is built for drilling all kinds of grain. It will also sow fine manure, broad-cast, on crops. Price $55.

No. 3, is a plain Wheat Drill; simple, accurate, substantial. Price $45. *None of our machines will clog in the runs;* they cannot do so with the most difficult kind of seed; *the distributing principle being entirely new.*

We are prepared to supply all orders. Those wishing to purchase drills would do well to see ours before purchasing elsewhere. The sooner the order is given, the more sure you will be of getting your Drill in time.

N. B. Persons wishing to make or sell our Drills are offered a good chance.

SHERMAN, FOSTER, & CO.

Palmyra, N. Y., June 1st, 1850.

A large descriptive bill will soon be issued, with cuts. All communications or inquiries (post paid) will receive prompt attention. Address Sherman, Foster & Co., Palmyra, Wayne county, N. Y. Those wishing it, can see the machines at Foster, Jessup & Co's. machine shop, Palmyra, where they will also find the best Thresher and Separator, Revolving Horse Rake, (spring teeth) Wheel Cultivators, and other agricultural implements; warranted superior. Call and see. S. F. & CO.

Mr. SHERMAN is agent for the sale of McCormick's Virginia Reaper.

CASH PAID FOR WOOL.

THE subscriber will pay the highest market price in cash for 200,000 pounds of wool. Persons at a distance having wool to sell will be called upon by sending me word when they are ready to sell. Call at the 2d Dry Goods store south of the old market house, and you will get all your wool is worth in cash.

Columbus, May 1, 1850. F C. SESSIONS.